

JOBSON et al  
Appl. No. 09/626,157  
May 30, 2006

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 15-28 are in the case. No claim amendments are requested.

**I. THE INTERVIEW**

At the outset, the undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner (Mr. Wachtel) for discussing this case on May 30, 2006. The purpose of the interview was to discuss the outstanding obviousness rejection. The substance of the interview will be clear from the comments presented below.

**II. THE OBVIOUSNESS REJECTION**

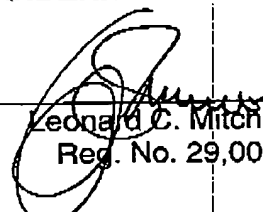
The claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. patent 6,143,921 to Karim. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted during the interview, the present application is based on PCT International Application No. PCT/GB97/02101, filed August 5, 1997, and which claims priority from British patent application Serial No. 9616573.3, filed on August 7, 1996. The Karim patent has an effective 35 U.S.C. §102(e) date of May 14, 1999 and is therefore not available as a reference against the present application. Withdrawal of the rejection is accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

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